

in their native land, leaving members of the whole population to a state of bondage more terrible than ever pressed upon the body and soul of a Greek or Roman, or Algerine slave. The several departments of the government proceeded to exercise their functions on the assumption of the slaveholders' right to hold their slaves and be protected therein under the constitution. A fugitive slave bill was immediately

and thus the foul treachery to God and human freedom was fully inaugurated, inflicting on hundreds of thousands then living, and on millions yet unborn, "a bondage," to use the words of Jefferson, "one hour's endurance of which is more terrible than whole ages of that which our fathers rose in rebellion to resist." They could not endure a union with Britain at a cost of a three-penny tax on tea, but to effect a union with a slaveldom they could sacrifice whole hcatombs of their fellow-men, guilty of a skin not colored like their

own, to the bloody Moloch of slavery. It is true it was not the cruel and infernal purpose of the fathers like that of modern slaveholders, to make slavery eternal; but the thing itself was none the less cruel and unjust, and was, manifestly, done against their own convictions, partly as a peace offering to certain slaveholding States, and partly in the self-detracting expectation that a growing spirit of freedom and an increasing unprofitableness of slavery would work its gradual extinction. But alas! instead of a gradual extinction,

of this high crime of the nation, we have had its rapid growth and extension. Every successive Administration has admitted the right of the Slave Power, and prostituted itself to serve its mercenary and mercileous designs. At its bidding the government has

lic. Hundreds of thousands of square miles of territory have either been purchased or plundered, to add to

slaveholders' dominions, to enable them to work out their scheme of unparalleled despotism. So that, instead of now having a half dozen States and a few

they have reduced half a continent to their tyrannical sway, wetting it with the tears and blood of millions.

And this is the nation that declared "all men created equal and endowed with the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"; that nounced

the blood of the people like water in professed defence of that declaration, and "appealed to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of their

blood. It has set itself up as the model republic and

the beacon light of the world, and yet it has robbed the world of its most precious treasure, the souls of its inhabitants, converted every rood of its soil into a hunting-ground, where men and helpless women and children are the prey, and every citizen is constituted by Congressional edict, a bloodhound upon their track. The Government has thus made itself the enemy of the right of suffrage, excluded them from its public schools, its churches, its public conveyances, the learned professions, and from the more honorable and lucrative departments of business, merely for the color of their skins. It has thus made itself the enemy of all virtuous citizens, and destroyed or taken from them their property for giving a cup of water, or a piece of bread, or a night's lodging, or conveyance on his way to a weary, hunted fugitive. The Constitution of the United States has thus been perverted to justify and shield all this. The human status has been set up above the law of God, and thus a bold blasphemous atheism has been practically inaugurated in the land by the despotic authority, the pulpit, the press, and the ballot box of the Government. The tread under their sacrilegious feet the precepts of Christianity, that dethrone the human conscience and the authority of God, have been set up as laws—a rule of action for a professedly Christian people. And thus the Government has been made the agent for plunging from the highest professions of loyalty to the

eternal principles of justice to the performance of the most terrible deeds of selfishness, cruelty, oppression and bloodshed. The Declaration of Independence, the national motto and the national prayer book are all based upon the nation written all over with the name of God, instead of lessening it would heighten its hypocrisy and guilt. God and nature cry against these things. The instincts of man and the human conscience are outraged by such crimes. There has been an eternal protest against them, involving a conflict which, continued beyond a certain culminating point without the civil association giving place to divine Being, would have resulted in the annihilation of the race. But, minute in blood. "Thus said the Lord, shall I not visit for these things? Shall not my soul be avenged?" That point, where a peaceful settlement of the slavery question was probable, was passed several years ago. Those who had stood with, with any degree of earnestness and honesty the principles of God's moral government over the years since the war, were now found to have been invariably followed the incorrigible wickedness of nations, saved, many years ago, that the cancer of the Slave Power, pampered and compromised with by the Government, could not be removed by the means of disruption of parties, the dissolution of the Union and inevitable civil war.

In 1847, the writer of this published an article, entitled, "Slavery—The Crisis," in which, after tracing the despotic despotism of the Slave Power through the present and past history of the United States, he predicted the progress of the Slave Power has, at length, brought on the crisis. The annexation of Texas and the Mexican war have forced the question of slavery upon the people of a national question. It must and will be considered even in the face of threatened dissolution of the Union. I may, therefore, declare the inevitable result of the present condition of the Union, and may be effected but it will only make the collision more inevitable, and forces the more certain and the more terrible. Is such a conflict of the social and political elements that must certainly and speedily take place, the present national parties must be broken up. Already horrible chances are seen running here and there, which no compensation can ever make good. We will now and more and more, the fatal hour arrives, and the nation will be completely broken. But the hour that shall dissolve the national parties can introduce a struggle that shall involve THE LAST HOUR OF LIBERTY AND THE REPUBLIC. It is manifest that emancipation must take place through the dissolution of the

Union, which is the kernel of both the Churches and the Nation, and which is the basis of all our rights, must be the chief agency of its improvement. In their alliance, he made the following declaration: "We are not prepared to claim Slavery will not be peacefully abolished, but will ultimately explode by the conflicting force of its own inhuman and infernal elements. It will go on with its mad strides, until it has consumed the millions of the millions of slaves, but the rights and interests of the whole people, until the very men who have given license to the *Wild Beast* to fawn at large in the nation, terrified and debased by his law wrought and is working, will rise up to drive him off, and will not be deterred by the fearful and bloody conflict that will ensue, the cause of the FALLEN CONFEDERACY WILL BE HEARD AMONG THE NATIONS OF GOD, as God is just, and his justice cannot sleep for ever, until those that have not only sold but have sold the Union but hasten its destruction. The wicked shall be snared in the work of their own hands."

How literally these statements have turned out to be true, every one who has marked the steps by which the existing Republic has been brought to this point, the compromises of 1850, the repeal of the Missouri Compromise in 1854, the Kansas invasion, the demand of the South for a Congressional slave code and the protection of the Southern territory, and the various discussions on this question, do not need to be interrupted

for the Democratic party and the defeat of its candidate for the Presidency in the last canvass, the consequent election of Abraham Lincoln, then accession and rebellion there were the story of the day. The grandest of scenes; the successive scenes in the onward drama which have at length brought upon the stage the bloody strife that is now raging in the land. The scenes are so certain and so regular that they result from the cause and the progress that more remotely preceded it; and yet nothing could be more clearly the retribution of God.

The fate of the nation now depends upon whether the people will fight for the principles of righteousness, humanity and justice, or whether the Administration to strike down the rebellion by any means, the system of slavery. This done and the whole of the South will be the property of the few thousands of lifeless men who are now in chains, or money, but we shall save the life of the nation, and at the same time lift a whole race whom we have wickedly crucified.

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